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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 11 Mar. 1955

SUBJECT MEZ Vsetin Production for Strip Mill
in Kuncice

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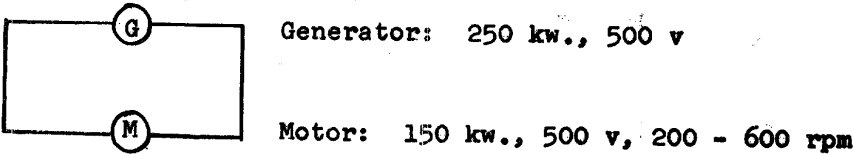
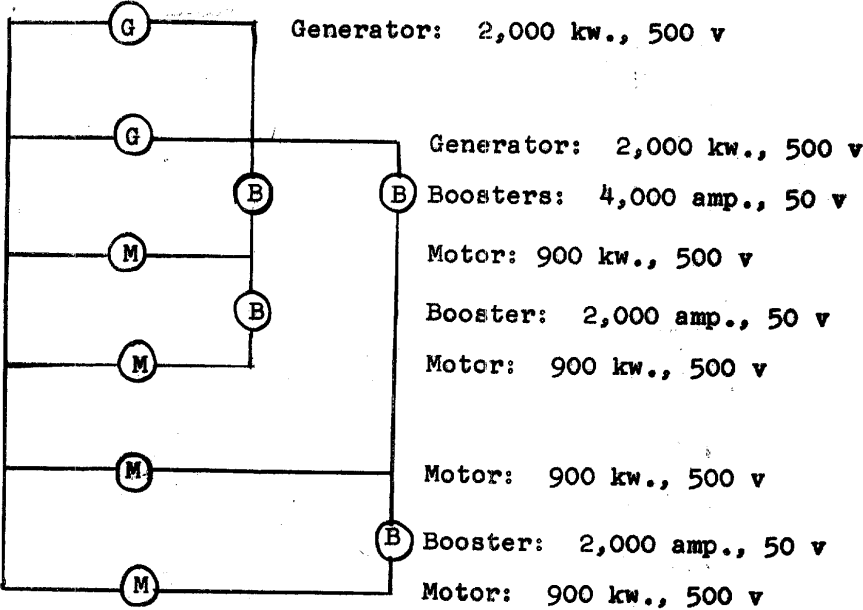
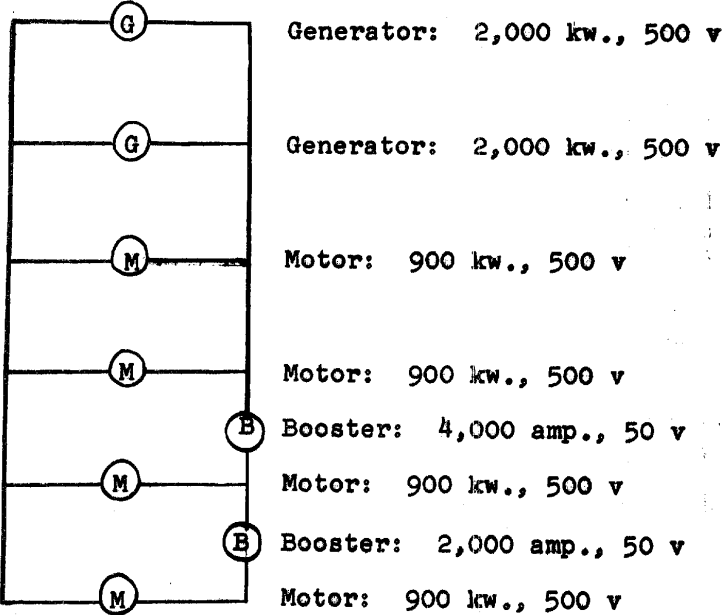
1. In 1949 or 1950, CKD Stalingrad in Prague-Vysocany asked MEZ Vsetin in Vsetin (N 49-20, E 18-00) about the possibility of MEZ manufacturing part of the electric drive destined for a new strip mill which was to be built by the Klement Gottwald New Foundry in Kuncice (N 49-48, E 18-18). At the same time CKD asked about the possibility of producing machines destined for the wire plant of the Iron Works in Bohumin (N 49-55, E 18-20). Some of the machines discussed were similar to those requested for the Kuncice strip mill but source did not know what was to be built in Bohumin. Shortly after the request was made, an order was placed at the MEZ plant by CKD for the strip mill. The request concerning the Bohumin wire plant did not develop further; it was rumored that the entire project was postponed indefinitely.
2. CKD was responsible for the entire electric drive and MEZ Vsetin acted only as a CKD supplier. Source did not know which firm was to produce the mechanical part of the strip mill. The details of the plans for the entire electric drive were changed frequently until finally, in 1953, the drive took final form. The date of delivery was also changed several times. It was originally scheduled for autumn 1955, then changed in spring 1954 to 1958, and changed again, in summer 1954, to 1955 or 1956. The construction in Kuncice started sometime during 1954.
3. The strip mill was to have a total output of about 10,000 hp. As shown on the basic diagram below, the main part of the mill had two sections. Each section was fed by two DC generators rated for an output of 2,000 kw., 500 v each. Two synchronous motors with an output of from 1,200 to 1,500 hp each drove the main generators. The synchronous motors, along with the generators, were not arranged in a single line with the remaining machinery but were located in a machine plant near the milling bench. Each section of the main part of the mill had four main DC motors rated for an output of 900 kw., 500 v each and several auxiliary DC motors. The voltage control, and thus the regulation of the

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revolutions per minute of the main motors, was performed by boosters. They were of two types: 2,000 amp. and 4,000 amp. It is possible that a 6,000 amp. booster was also installed in the drive. Such a booster was, in fact, designed and called type M 71, but source did not know whether or not it was still planned to install it. The boosters were rated for 50 v each, which is to say that the basic 500 v voltage could be regulated down to 450 or up to 550 volts. Each booster was operated by a workman.



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4. The main mill was followed by an auxiliary milling section, the exact function of which was unknown to source. The main DC motor in this section was rated for 150 kw., 500 v, 200 to 600 rpm. Regulation was performed by means of field weakening. The motor had compensatory winding and was fed by a DC generator rated for 250 kw., 500 v. The last section of the mill was for rolling up the strip. Source did not know the design of this section.
5. All the main parts of the electric drive were to be produced by CKD Stalingrad. MEZ Vsetin was to deliver: all the boosters; the entire auxiliary mill section; all of the auxiliary motors, about 20 motors of various output from seven to 22 kw.; a number of exciters (200 kw., 220 v) for the main generators, main and auxiliary DC motors; exciters (70 kw., 110 v) for synchronous motors. MEZ was also to produce several amplidynes for various control purposes, including amplidynes which would automatically maintain a constant power factor for the main synchronous motors. This equipment was the first of its kind produced in Czechoslovakia and probably the only equipment of this type in the country.
6. For the first time in its history, CKD, at MEZ's suggestion, agreed to use amplidyne control for CKD equipment. CKD made this agreement most reluctantly, however, and as a precautionary measure insisted that the amplidynes be installed in either of the following ways: one arrangement called for the amplidynes to operate in parallel with the exciters; the other consisted of connecting the exciters into the circuit in order that the drive would continue to operate if the amplidynes failed.
7. By late summer 1954, the design of the equipment to be delivered by MEZ Vsetin was entirely completed and the equipment was about to be put in production at the plant. Source believes the plant should be able to complete production and make delivery during 1956. This seemed to be a reasonable date of delivery, although if production were rushed, delivery could be made by the end of 1955. As of late summer 1954, source did not know the status of production of the main electric equipment manufactured by CKD Stalingrad.

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